IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) An apparatus for providing a function to a host terminal, comprising:

a point of deployment (POD) module that can be connected to the host; and

an interface between the POD module and the host, wherein the interface selectively ~~integrates~~ provides Direct Memory Access (DMA) between the POD module and the host terminal ~~such that the POD module and host act as a unified architecture~~.

2. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the interface integrates the POD module and the host if the host has a given characteristic, and wherein the interface does not integrate the POD module and host if the host does not have the given characteristic.

3. (original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the given characteristic indicates that the host is an authorized host.

4. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the interface ~~unified architecture~~ allows ~~at least one of a direct memory access transfer and~~ a shared memory between the POD module and the host.

5. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 4, further comprising [[a]] said shared memory having at least one of a first memory portion in the POD module and a second memory portion in the host.

6. (currently amended) An apparatus for providing a function to a host terminal, comprising:

a point of deployment (POD) module that can be connected to the host; and

an interface between the POD module and the host, wherein the interface selectively integrates the POD module and the host;

~~The apparatus of claim 1,~~ wherein the interface includes a plurality of pins coupling the POD module to the host, and wherein at least one pin is allocated as [[the]] an interface pin for integrating the POD module and the host.

7. (original) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the interface pin is a reserved pin on an NRSS-B interface.

8. (original) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the plurality of pins has an established functional pin layout that is changed to a reconfigured functional pin layout to integrate the host and the POD module.

9. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the functional reconfiguration ~~facilitates~~ enables at least one of shared memory and direct memory access between the host and the POD module.

10. (original) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the interface pin is a dual functionality pin that is switchable between an established pin function and a reconfigured pin function that integrates the POD module and the host.

11. (original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the reconfigured pin function allows at least one of shared memory and direct memory access between the host and the POD module.

12. (original) An apparatus for providing a function to a host terminal, comprising:

a memory;

a point of deployment (POD) module that can be connected to the host; and

a plurality of pins connecting the POD module to the host, wherein at least one of said plurality of pins is allocated as an interface pin that selectively integrates the POD module and host to allow the POD module and the host to share the memory and to allow direct memory access between the POD module and the host.

13. (original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the memory includes a first memory portion in the POD module and a second memory portion in the host.

14. (original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the interface pin selectively integrates the POD module and the host by selectively reconfiguring the functions of a selected number of said plurality of pins.

15. (original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the interface pin integrates the POD module and the host if the host has a given characteristic, and wherein the interface pin does not integrate the POD module and the host if the host does not have the given characteristic.

16. (original) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the given characteristic indicates that the host is an authorized host.

17. (original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the interface pin is a reserved pin on an NRSS-B interface.

18. (original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the interface pin is a dual functionality pin that is switchable between a standard function and an integration function that integrates the POD module and the host.

19. (currently amended) A method for providing a function to a host terminal, comprising ~~the acts of~~:

connecting a point of deployment (POD) module to the host via an interface; and

selectively integrating the POD module and the host so as to provide Direct Memory Access (DMA) between ~~such that~~ the POD module and host ~~act as a unified architecture~~.

20. (original) The method of claim 19, wherein the selectively integrating act is conducted if the host has a given characteristic, and wherein the selectively integrating act is not conducted if the host does not have the given characteristic.

21. (original) The method of claim 20, wherein the given characteristic indicates that the host is an authorized host.

22. (currently amended) The method of claim 19, wherein the selective integrating ~~act~~ allows ~~at least one of a direct memory access transfer and~~ a shared memory between the POD module and the host.

23. (currently amended) A method for providing a function to a host terminal, comprising the acts of:

connecting a point of deployment (POD) module to the host via an interface; and

selectively integrating the POD module and the host such that the POD module and host act as a unified architecture;

~~The method of claim 19,~~ wherein the interface includes a plurality of pins coupling the POD module to the host, and wherein the selectively integrating act includes the act of allocating at least one pin as an interface pin for integrating the POD module and the host.

24. (currently amended) The method of claim 23, wherein the plurality of pins has an established functional pin layout, and wherein the selectively integrating act includes the act of functionally reconfiguring the established functional pin layout to obtain a reconfigured functional pin layout.

25. (currently amended) The method of claim 24, wherein the functional reconfiguration act ~~facilitates~~ enables at least one of shared memory and direct memory access between the host and the POD module.

26. (original) The method of claim 23, wherein the interface pin is a dual functionality pin, and wherein the selectively integrating act includes the act of switching the

dual functionality pin between an established function and a reconfigured function that integrates the POD module and the host.

27. (original) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the reconfigured function allows at least one of shared memory and direct memory access between the host and the POD module.

28. (new) An apparatus for providing a function to a host terminal, comprising:

a point of deployment (POD) module that can be connected to the host terminal;

an interface between the POD module and the host terminal; and

a memory which is shared by both said POD module and said host terminal through said interface.

29. (new) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the interface selectively provides Direct Memory Access (DMA) between the POD module and the host terminal.

30. (new) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein said memory is located in said host terminal.

31. (new) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein said memory is located in said POD module.

32. (new) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein a portion of said memory is located in said POD module and a portion of said memory is located in said host terminal.

33. (new) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the interface allows said memory to be shared based on an identification of said host terminal.

34. (new) A method for providing a function to a host terminal, comprising:

connecting a point of deployment (POD) module to the host terminal with an interface; and

sharing a memory between both said POD module and said host terminal through said interface.

35. (new) The method of claim 34, further comprising:

identifying said host terminal to said POD module; and

enabling said memory sharing based on said identifying of said host terminal.

36. (new) The method of claim 35, wherein said enabling said memory sharing is performed by reconfiguring function assignments for pins of said interface to enable said memory sharing.

37. (new) The method of claim 34, wherein said memory is located in said host terminal.

38. (new) The method of claim 34, wherein said memory is located in said POD module.

39. (new) The method of claim 34, wherein a portion of said memory is located in said POD module and a portion of said memory is located in said host terminal.

40. (new) A system for providing a function to a host terminal, comprising:

a point of deployment (POD) module having an interface for connection to the host terminal;

wherein said POD module is programmed to obtain an identification from said host terminal and selectively reconfigures function assignments for pins of said interface based on said identification of said host terminal.

41. (new) The system of claim 40, wherein said interface, when reconfigured, enables Direct Memory Access (DMA) between said POD module and said host terminal through said interface.

42. (new) The system of claim 40, wherein said interface, when reconfigured, enables sharing a memory between both said POD module and said host terminal through said interface.

43. (new) The system of claim 42, wherein said memory is located in said host terminal.

44. (new) The system of claim 42, wherein said memory is located in said POD module.

45. (new) The system of claim 42, wherein a portion of said memory is located in said POD module and a portion of said memory is located in said host terminal.

46. (new) A method for providing a function to a host terminal, comprising:

connecting a point of deployment (POD) module to the host terminal through an interface;

with said POD module, obtaining an identification from said host terminal; and

selectively reconfiguring function assignments for pins of said interface based on said identification of said host terminal.

47. (new) The method of claim 46, further comprising reconfiguring said function assignments of pins of said interface to enable Direct Memory Access (DMA) between said POD module and said host terminal through said interface.

48. (new) The method of claim 46, further comprising reconfiguring said function assignments of pins of said interface to enable sharing a memory between both said POD module and said host terminal through said interface.

49. (new) The method of claim 48, wherein said memory is located in said host terminal.

50. (new) The method of claim 48, wherein said memory is located in said POD module.

51. (new) The method of claim 48, wherein a portion of said memory is located in said POD module and a portion of said memory is located in said host terminal.

52. (new) A system for providing a function to a host terminal, comprising:

means for interfacing a point of deployment (POD) module and the host terminal; and

means for selectively integrating the POD module and the host terminal so as to provide Direct Memory Access (DMA) between the POD module and host terminal through said means for interfacing.

53. (new) A system for providing a function to a host terminal, comprising:

means for interfacing a point of deployment (POD) module and the host terminal; and

means for sharing a memory between both said POD module and said host terminal through said means for interfacing.

54. (new) A system for providing a function to a host terminal, comprising:

means for interfacing a point of deployment (POD) module and the host terminal;

means for obtaining an identification from said host terminal; and

means for selectively reconfiguring function assignments for pins of said means for interfacing based on said identification of said host terminal.